**Environment pollution in cities**

1106. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental pollution is the highest in cities;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures contemplated to reduce the pollution in the cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The environmental pollution in the cities is generally attributed to vehicular emmissions and discharge of partially treated domestic and industrial waste water. The monitored ambient air quality data in the cities indicate that while levels of Sulphur Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxide are within notified norms, the levels of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) are higher on certain occasions in some cities.

(c) The steps taken to abate pollution in cities include:

- Notification of general and source specific environmental standards;
- Identification of pollution sources;
- Control of vehicular pollution through promotion of clean fuels; introduction of stringent emission norms and fuel specifications;
- Promotion of cleaner technolgies for control of industrial pollution;
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance.

**Pollution caused by carbon and chemical wastes**

†1107. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the target of neat and clean development has failed due to the pollution caused by the carbon and chemical wastes generated from industries;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to tackle the said problem;

(c) whether the imported waste is also responsible for the said problem; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by Government for tackling it?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government have notified various environmental legislations such as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) rules, 1989 as amended, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for control of pollution caused by waste generated from industries. The industries are required to set-up requisite pollution control facilities to comply with the notified emission and effluent standards. Under the Hazardous Waste Rules, the generator has also to obtain an authorization from the concerned State Pollution Control Board for handling the same.

(c) and (d) The import of waste is regulated under the provisions of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 and its amendments, which prescribes the norms and procedures for import of waste and its susequent handling.

**Leasing out of reserved forest to plantation owners**

1108. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the lease to plantation owners about ten thousand hectares of reserved forests in Cardamom Hill Reserve (CHR) in Idukki District in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of owners to whom the land is to be distributed and steps taken to protect the above Catchments area of river Periyar;

(c) if so, whether the disposal of above land is governed by special provisions in forest Act; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof and whether Government would cancel the lease agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government of Kerala. After receipt of the information, a statement shall be laid on the table of the House.